

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02 ACDA-10 ACDE-00 IO-10

AID-05 SAM-01 SAB-01 OMB-01 IGA-01 EB-07 TRSE-00 /090 W

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Z P 181256Z SEP 75 ZFF-6

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 5703

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

UNCLAS AMMAN 6332

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: MASS PFOR JO S

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT ON HAWK MISSILES

1. FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY OFFICIAL JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT
SPOKESMAN BROADCAST ON RADIO JORDAN AT 1400 LOCAL TIME
SEPTEMBER 18. UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION
FROM ARABIC FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN QUOTE: MR ZAYD RIFAI, THE PRIME MINISTER AND
FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTER, RECEIVED IN HIS OFFICE AT
A LATE HOUR LAST NIGHT THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN AMMAN
WHO INFORMED HIM THAT THE AMERICAN CONGRESS HAS APPROVED
JORDAN'S REQUEST TO PURCHASE 14 BATTERIES OF IMPROVED
HAWK MISSILES AFTER PRESIDENT FORD SENT A MESSAGE TO MEMBERS
OF CONGRESS IN WHICH HE NOTIFIED THEM THAT THESE MISSILE
BATTERIES WILL BEGIN TO BE RECEIVED IN JORDAN TOWARDS THE
END OF 1976, AND THAT DELIVERY WILL CONTINUE IN INSTALLMENTS
UNTIL 1979. THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT FORD ALSO INCLUDED
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ASSURANCES THAT THE MISSILES WILL BE USED SOLELY FOR THE

PURPOSE OF THE DEFENSE OF JORDAN AND THAT THEIR EMPLACEMENT IN THE KINGDOM WILL REFLECT THEIR DEFENSIVE NATURE: THAT IS THEY WILL BE USED FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE AREAS OF AMMAN ZARQA, AND THE AIRPORTS, AIR BASES, RADAR STATIONS, AND OTHER VITAL REGIONS IN THE KINGDOM. PRESIDENT FORD ADDED IN HIS MESSAGE TO CONGRESS THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ACCEPT THAT THESE BATTERIES BE A PART OF ANY ARAB BILATERAL OR COLLECTIVE MILITARY ARRANGEMENT EXCEPT AFTER OBTAINING ITS PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL AND THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WILL SUPERVISE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL THESE ARRANGMENTS, AND WILL RESERVE TO ITSELF AND TO THE AMERICAN CONGRESS THE RIGHT TO ADOPT APPROPRIATE MEASURES, IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH AS CEASING PROVISION OF THE MISSILES.

3. UPON THE ORDER AND DIRECTIVES OF HIS MAJESTY THE EXALTED KING (KING HUSSEIN) THE PRIME MINISTER INFORMED THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR OF THE REGRET OF THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT REGARDING ITS ABSOLUTE NON-READINESS TO SIGN THE CONTRACT OF PURCHASE OF THE MENTIONED HAWK MISSILES WITH THE KINDS OF CONDITIONS RESTRICTIONS AND OBLIGATIONS AS ARE CONTAINED IN THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT FORD TO THE CONGRESS, WHICH JORDAN CONSIDERS UNIQUE AND TOUCHING ITS NATIONAL DIGNITY. THE PRIME MINISTER EMPHASIZED TO THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR THAT JORDAN ESTABLISHED POLICY IS TO CONSIDER ANY WEAPON THAT ARRIVES IN JORDAN AS JORDANIAN WEAPON AS SOON AS IT ARRIVES IN THE KINGDOM. IN ADDITION, THE DELIVERY DATES OF THESE HAWK MISSILES, AS MENTIONED IN THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT FORD DO NOT COINCIDE WITH JORDAN'S REQUIREMENT, SINCE JORDAN STRONGLY WISHES (YUSSIR) TO RECEIVE THEM AS SOON AS THE TRAINING OF ITS ARMED FORCES IN THEIR USE IS COMPLETED. AND WHEN THESE FORCES ARE CAPABLE OF ABSORBING THEM SO THAY CAN START DEFENDING WITH THEM THE AIRSPACE OF THE KINGDOM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY OTHER CONSIDERTION. THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED THAT IN CASE THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS NOT PREPARED TO CONCLUDE THE SALES AGREEMENT (CONTRACT) ON THESE GROUNDS, THE THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT WILL WITHDRAW ITS REQUEST TO PURCHASE THESE MISSILES AND WILL WORK TO SECURE JORDAN'S REQUIREMENT FOR THE AIR DEFENSE OF THE KINGDOM, IN THE AREA WHICH THE HAWK MISSILES CAN COVER, FROM ANY SOURCE AS HIS MAJESTY THE EXALTED KING HAS DECLARED BEFORE

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AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES WHICH JORDAN HAS FOLLOWED IN SECURING ITS WEAPONS UNTIL NOW. END QTE.

4. WE BELIEVE THIS TRANSLATION IS MOST AUTHORIZATIVE SINCE IT HAS BEEN MOST CAREFULLY TRANSLATED IN LIGHT OF THE AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSION WITH PRIME MINISTER RIFAI REGARDING THE TEXT AND ITS PURPOSE
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